

REMARKS

FORMAL MATTERS:

Claims 1-36 were examined. Claims 3-5, 11-16, 18-22, 29, 30, 33 and 34 were rejected. Claims 1, 2, 6-10, 17, 23-28, 31, 32 and 36 were allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance.

Claims 1-17, 19-24 and 26-36 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein.

Claims 18 and 25 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 3-5, 11, 14, 19, 21, 22, 29, 33 and 34 have been amended. Support for these amendments is found throughout the specification and the originally filed claims. Accordingly, no new matter is added.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims.

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 19 and 22 were objected to for informalities. These informalities have been corrected.

Claims 34 and 35 were objected to as being in improper multiple dependent form. Applicants did not intend for claims 34 and 35 to be in multiple dependent form and respectfully assert that the original form was not in such multiple dependent form. Nonetheless, Applicant has deleted the reference to claim 1.

REJECTIONS UNDER §112, ¶2

Claims 3-5, 11-16, 18-22, 29, 30, 33 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant believes that the amendments to the claims herein address each of the particular reasons for the rejections. Nonetheless, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner regarding the presence of method limitations in claim 24 (rejection (s)). Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims.


CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number LIFE-029.

Respectfully submitted,
BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP

Date: 4/27/04

By: 
Carol M. LaSalle
Registration No. 39,740

BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP
200 Middlefield Road, Suite 200
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Telephone: (650) 327-3400
Facsimile: (650) 327-3231

F:\DOCUMENT\LIFE\029\resp to oa 012904.doc